

# CALIFORNIA POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION COMMISSION

---



## ***PRESS RELEASE***

---

Contact: Linda White  
California Postsecondary Education Commission  
1303 J Street, Suite 500  
Sacramento, California 95814-2938  
(916) 322-7984  
lwhite@cpec.ca.gov

### **Commission Awards \$888,977 Grant to the University of California Santa Cruz to Improve Teaching and Learning**

February 2004 --- The University of California, Santa Cruz Education Department will receive a three-year grant of \$888,977 in federal monies that have been earmarked for improving the quality of teaching and learning. Designed to focus on the mathematics and literacy needs of students entering the East Side Union High School District, the project will create better articulation of curriculum and professional development between the six feeder middle schools and the high schools.

A number of students entering high schools in the East Side Union High School District have been handicapped by inadequate preparation in mathematics and literacy. This project will provide opportunities for teachers to communicate better with each other and improve their skills through innovative summer laboratories and academic year mentoring. The project is expected to serve 136 teachers, and will have an impact on over 4,000 students. This grant will give our teachers the tools they need to help all our children succeed," said Assemblyman Joe Simitian.

The California Postsecondary Education Commission has been administering federal funds to improve teacher professional development since 1984. This year the Commission has made awards totaling over \$14 million in the *Improving Teacher Quality State Grants Program*.

The California Postsecondary Education Commission advises the Governor and Legislature on higher education policy and fiscal issues. Its primary focus is to ensure that the state's educational resources are used effectively to provide Californians with postsecondary education opportunities. More information about the Commission and its work can be found at its website at [www.cpec.ca.gov](http://www.cpec.ca.gov). For more information about this program, you may contact Ellen Moir, University of California, Santa Cruz, Education Department, at 831-459-4051; or Dan Ordaz, East Side Union High School District, at 408-347-5060.